



# Camp Justice Preliminary Public Health Review Report of 12 August 2015

## Introduction

The following information is provided as part of a wide-ranging effort to understand potential health risks for our personnel serving at Camp Justice on Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (NSGB). Currently underway is a comprehensive Public Health Review (PHR) to assess potential health risks associated with living and working at Camp Justice. The risk assessment is being conducted in accordance with U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and U. S. Navy Risk Assessment Guidance. The epidemiological investigation is being conducted in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines. In line with our commitment to continually share important health information, we encourage you to review this fact sheet.

## Purpose

On 4 – 8 August 2015, a Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) team of public health experts visited Camp Justice to conduct a preliminary investigation which included:

- Performing an epidemiological review of medical data bases to confirm the diagnosis of cancer and type.
- Reviewing medical literature to determine known environmental risk factors for each confirmed cancer type.
- Gathering and reviewing available historical occupational health and environmental data.
- Conducting an on-site walk-through survey of living and work environments.
- Assessing the need for collecting additional environmental data to fill data gaps.

## Findings

Based on review of available documents and the walk-through survey it was determined that the buildings, tents and trailers where people live and work are habitable for occupancy. Because available historical and environmental records were limited, data gaps were identified and additional environmental sampling was recommended. Based on the process recommended by CDC to define a cancer cluster, it was determined a full cancer cluster investigation was not scientifically supported and a formal case series analysis will be conducted instead which describes the risk factors (e.g., genetics, lifestyle, and exposure to chemicals in the environment and/or workplace) associated with each specific cancer once the appropriate environmental and occupational data are collected and/or become available through record searches.

